

Mid-East Prophecy Update – March 20th, 2011

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."

- For today's update, I deem it necessary to preface what I'm about to say, by saying what I always say; "be a Berean and search for yourself."
- I'll take it a step further; it's incumbent upon all of us to listen only to what God says in His Word, and not just what others say about His Word.
- In other words, as I stand before this church to preach and teach God's Word, don't listen to one word, unless it's true to truth of God's Word.

Charles Spurgeon in a sermon that he delivered on January 21st, 1872, titled; "How Can I Obtain Faith." said it best this way; "The theory now-a-days is that all preachers worth hearing by this refined generation must be profound thinkers, and inventors of improved theologies. Brethren, let man's thoughts perish for ever; the thoughts of God and not the thoughts of man will save souls. The truth of God should be spoken simply, with as little as possible of the embellishments of metaphysics, and philosophy, and high culture, and all that stuff. I say the word of God delivered as we find it is that which, when heard, brings faith to the souls of men. I counsel you, my occasional hearers, you who perhaps have come freshly to this city, or who reside where you have a choice of ministry, seek not that which tickles your ear, but that which your conscience approves as consistent with the word of God; and, though we or an angel from heaven should preach to you that which is not God's word, do not listen to us, for it will be mischievous to you. Hear you what God the Lord speaketh, and hear nothing else..."

From a sermon by Charles Haddon Spurgeon entitled "How Can I Obtain Faith," delivered January 21, 1872.

- I share that to establish this; I am neither a profound thinker, nor a refined theologian, I am only a man who's been called to teach God's Word.
- Furthermore, as Spurgeon so eloquently says it, in your wanting to hear what others have to say, you really need to hear what God has to say.
- Now, as we round the corner and look at our Bible prophecy update for today I want to encourage you to listen to that which God wants to say.

- There have been recent developments in Libya, with the U.S. launching air strikes to, "protect civilians," from a merciless Muammar Gaddafi.
- I would suggest to you that this is not the real reason we and supposedly the Arab league with us are doing what is now being done in Libya.
- The real reason is that the Muslim Brotherhood, with our Presidents permission, has now been given positions in high levels of Government.

- Some of the experts believe these "rebel forces" we're now supporting in Libya are an extension of Al Qaeda and the Muslim Brotherhood.
- If this is true, then the implications are very far reaching as it relates to what I'll call the; "out with the old, and in with the 'New World Order.'"
- This new order in the world begins in the Middle-East, under the banner of "freedom," when in fact it's the world domination of the Anti-Christ.

- Also, another paramount concern amongst people today, in light of the ongoing and unthinkable devastation in Japan, is a nuclear meltdown.
- I would suggest that the implications of the potential for a nuclear meltdown and fallout, are far more reaching than anyone of us really knows.
- For what should be deemed as obvious reasons, I will not even attempt to address the scientific, or atmospheric ramifications, if it happens.

- However, I will attempt to address the prophetic ramifications from a Biblical standpoint whether or not what they are fearing actually happens.
- What I mean by that, is this; the scriptures are replete with prophetic passages describing nuclear fallout throughout the tribulation period.
- In the interest of time and because I'm excited to get into our study in the book of Romans, I'll quickly read some passages for you to consider.

Ezekiel 39:8-9 NIV It is coming! It will surely take place, declares the Sovereign LORD. This is the day I have spoken of. (9) "Then those who live in the towns of Israel will go out and use the weapons for fuel and burn them up—the small and large shields, the bows and arrows, the war clubs and spears. For seven years they will use them for fuel.

Zechariah 14:12 NKJV And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

Matthew 24:22 NKJV And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

Revelation 8:10-11 NIV The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water— (11) the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

- Some Bible commentators describe this as a nuclear fallout by virtue of the surrounding waters becoming poisoned from massive radiation.
- Now, let me hasten to say; while there are some who argue to the contrary, it is believed that this word; "Wormwood," in Russian is Chernobyl.
- Be that as it may, I believe that we are even now beginning to see disasters that will ultimately find their fulfillment in the Tribulation period

- I want to end the way we began. Here's the question we need to be asking ourselves; "what is God saying to me concerning all of this?"
- Maybe to one, He's saying, "you need to get right with me, and you need to get ready for me because I'm coming at an hour you don't expect."
- Maybe to some, He's saying; "you need to get your affairs in order, there's not much time." In either case, this should bring all of us hope!

Romans 8:22-25 NIV We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. (23) Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (24) For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? (25) But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.